

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Applicant(s): Triantopoulos et al.

Examiner: C. Prasad

Serial No.: 10/047,471

Group Art Unit: 2839

Filed: January 14, 2002

Docket: 577-521RCE

Confirmation No.: 1043

Dated: March 29, 2004

For: TRANSFORMER STUD
CONNECTOR

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APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.193(b)(1)

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Answer mailed January 29, 2004 Appellant's Reply Brief is hereby filed in response thereto.

In Appellant's Brief, it has been argued that the Kraft reference fails to show a connector for attachment to an extending transformer stud having conductor insertion apertures spaced along the length of the conductor accommodating body "**so as to be longitudinally coextensive with said longitudinal bore of said central body**", as recited in independent claim 1.

Furthermore, Kraft fails to disclose within the reference, a connector for attachment to an extending transformer stud having conductor insertion apertures spaced along the length of

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the conductor accommodating body **“so as to be longitudinally coextensive with said longitudinal bore of said central body”**.

In the Examiner's Answer, at section (11) **Response to Argument**, the Examiner indicates that Kraft does show conductor insertion apertures 30, 32 longitudinally coextensive with the longitudinal bore 40 of the central body 28.

Kraft discloses a connector having threaded end aperture and terminal ports adapted to receive electrical conductors. Set screws are provided for the tight interconnection between the conductors and the connector. The conductors are held in position by threaded set screws which are in alignment with the terminal ports. The connector has a threaded end aperture which is perpendicular to the terminal ports, and is designed to receive reciprocally therein a mounting stud of a conventional transformer. The terminal ports are clearly distal from the threaded aperture. In contrast to the present invention, the Kraft patent fails to show or describe a connector for attachment to an extending transformer stud having conductor insertion apertures spaced along the length of the conductor accommodating body **“so as to be longitudinally coextensive with said longitudinal bore of said central body ”** as recited in independent claim 1. As described in column 2, lines 46-57, and shown in Fig. 1 of Kraft, ports 30 and 32 and set screws 34 and 36 are positioned in perpendicular relationship to each other respectively along the axis of the threaded end aperture. Therefore, because of the location of the conductor ports and associated set screws the threaded end aperture cannot extend along the connector to be coextensive with the terminal ports.

Application No.: 10/047,471
Filing Date: January 14, 2002
Docket No.: 577-521/RCE
Page 3

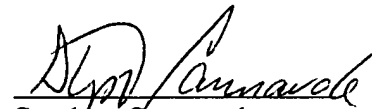
As claim 1 recites features not found in the Kraft patent, claim 1 cannot as a matter of law be anticipated by Kraft, which places claim 1 in a condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that contrary to the Examiner's position, the Kraft patent fails to show or describe a connector for attachment to an extending transformer stud having conductor insertion apertures spaced along the length of the conductor **accommodating body** "so as to be longitudinally coextensive with said longitudinal bore of said central body." For this reason and the reasons set forth previously in Appellant's Brief, it is respectfully submitted that reversal of the Examiner's final rejection is warranted.

Filed herewith is a Request For Oral Hearing Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.94(b).

As required, this Reply Brief is being filed in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,


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